REPORT RESUMES

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THE OPPORTUNITY TO LIVE IN DECENCY AND DIGNITY. ANNUAL REPORT, 1965.

NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

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THIS DOCUMENT IS THE REPORT OF THE FIRST YEAR OF NEW JERSEY'S ANTIPOVERTY EFFORTS FOLLOWING THE PASSAGE OF THE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 1964. DISCUSSED ARE COMMUNITY ACTION IN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS AND SUCH STATE PROGRAMS AS RURAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT, MIGRANT OPPORTUNITIES, HEALTH SERVICES FOR POOR YOUTH, WORK EXPERIENCE FOR WELFARE RECIPIENTS, ADULT BASIC EDUCATION, AND ASSISTANCE FOR THE AGED POOR. OTHER STATEWIDE PROJECTS WERE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMISSION ON POVERTY AND THE LAW, A COMMUNITY ACTION TRAINING INSTITUTE, JOB CORPS, HEAD START, NEIGHBORHOOD YOUTH CORPS, WORK-STUDY PROGRAMS, RURAL LOANS PROGRAMS, AND SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT. (NH)

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
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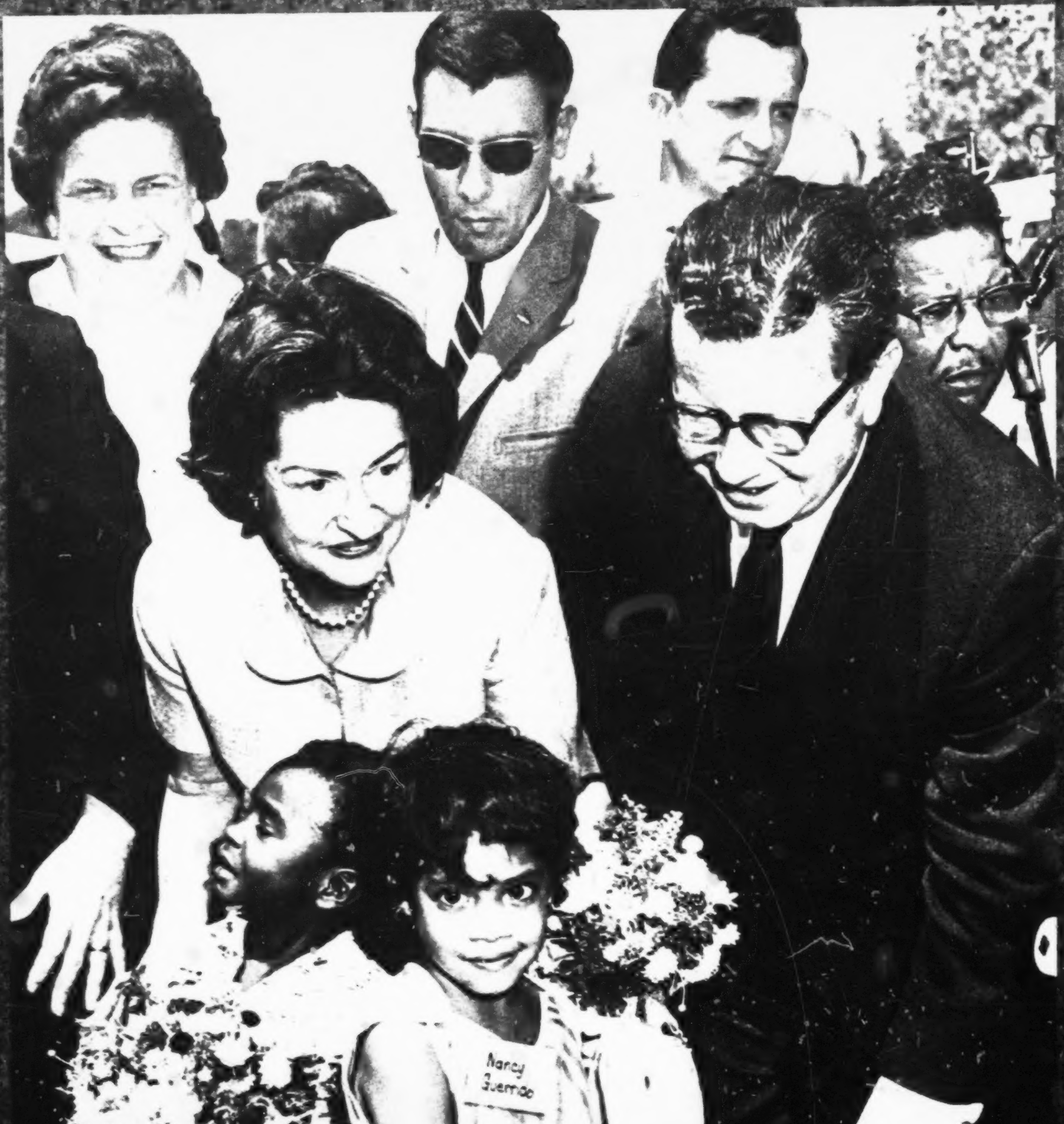
ANNUAL REPORT 1965

New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity

RICHARD J. HUGHES, *GOVERNOR* John C. Bullitt, *Director*



Trenton Times Photo

Governor and Mrs. Hughes Accompany Mrs. Lady Bird Johnson on Her Inspection Visit to a New Jersey Head Start Program...

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
JOHN C. BULLITT
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

TO THE HONORABLE RICHARD J. HUGHES, GOVERNOR

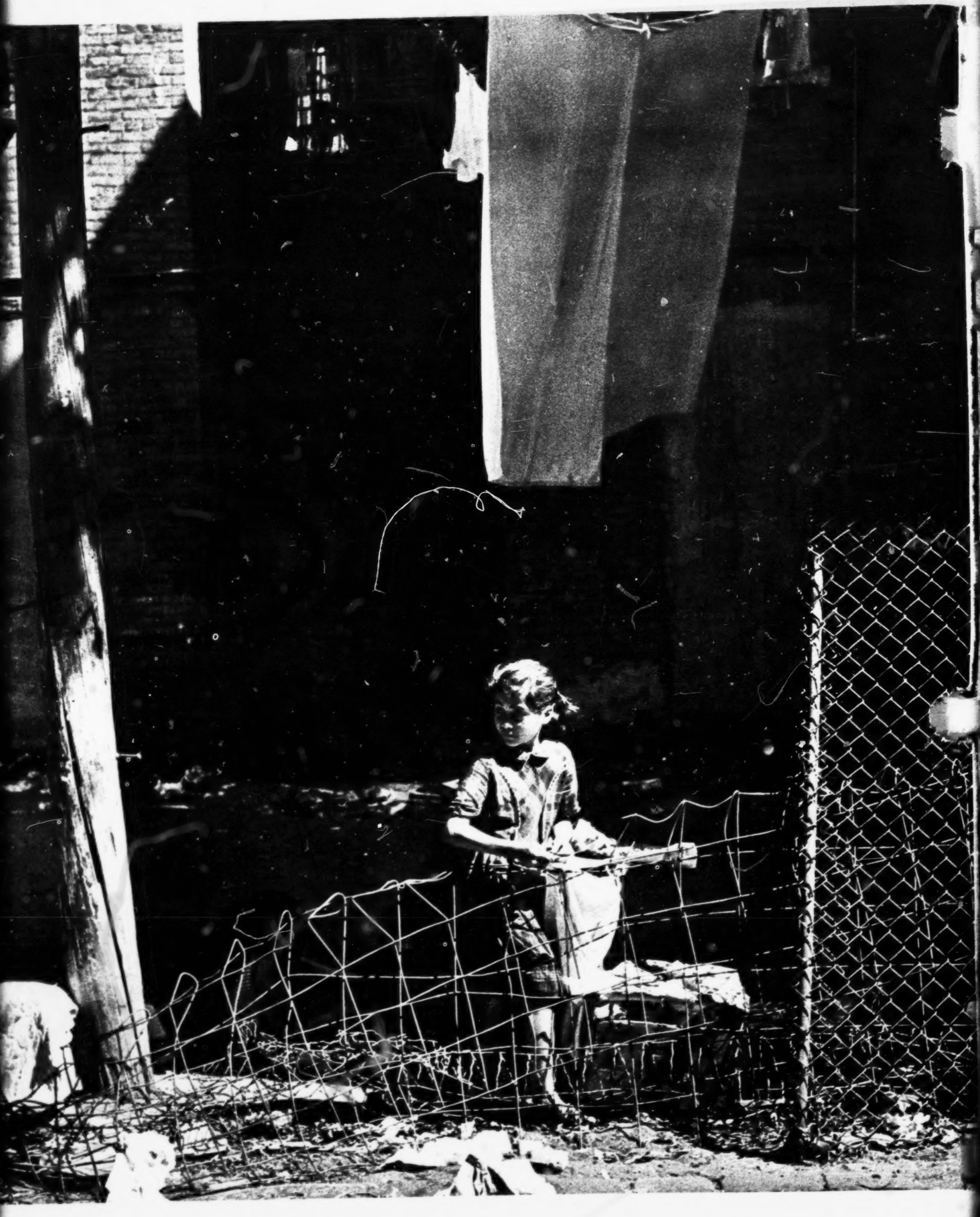
One year ago you established the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity to, "take immediate advantage of the Federal anti-poverty legislation for which appropriations were signed into law yesterday by President Johnson".

One year later, New Jersey has, according to Sargent Shriver, Director of the U. S. Office of Economic Opportunity, "obtained a greater variety of grants covering more of its people than any state in the union".

This report attempts to tell the story of how this happened, and something of the thousands of people -- both poor and affluent -- who have participated in a great awakening.

John C. Bullitt.
JOHN C. BULLITT

October 8, 1965



Her Playground is Poverty...A Backyard of New Jersey's City Slums....

INTRODUCTION

> "The United States can achieve its full economic and social potential as a nation only if every individual has the opportunity to contribute to the full extent of his capabilities and to participate in the workings of our society. It is, therefore, the policy of the United States to eliminate the paradox of poverty in the midst of plenty in this Nation by opening to everyone the opportunity for education and training, the opportunity to work, and the opportunity to live in decency and dignity." (Sec. 2, Economic Opportunity Act of 1964)

Governor Richard J. Hughes established the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity on October 8, 1964 -- the day after President Johnson signed the bill appropriating funds under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964.

New Jersey thus became the first state in the nation to declare its commitment to this historic policy adopted by the Congress of the United States.

In launching its anti-poverty campaign, New Jersey recognized that.....

... while 180,000 families live on less than $3,000 a year, New Jersey's Division of Welfare estimates $4,280 as the minimum adequate annual budget for a family of three;

... over half a million adult New Jersey citizens have not completed even six years of schooling -- and 90,000 adult New Jersey citizens never attended any school at all;

... more than 3,000 homes in a typical rural New Jersey county have no running water -- no drinking water, no flush toilets, no bathtubs, and no showers;

... while New Jersey's median annual family income rose from $3,720 to $6,786 from 1950 to 1960, New Jersey's welfare caseload rose from 115,000 in April of 1960 to 185,000 by 1965 and welfare costs from $30 million in 1954 to $101 million a decade later.

In only one year.....

... New Jersey's attack on poverty has been carried to all 21 counties in an effort to reach the 180,000 families who live on less than $3,000 a year and the 126,000 unrelated individuals who live on less than $1,000 a year in this Garden State, where median annual income is nearly $6,000.

... more than $36 million in federal grants has been brought into the State for dramatic self-help programs designed to open "the opportunity for education and training, the opportunity to work, and the opportunity to live in decency and dignity" to over 60,000 of our poor and thousands of their dependents;

... the public and private resources of the State and its communities have been mobilized and strengthened, thereby adding a new dimension to the long battle against want, in a dynamic effort that has won national recognition.

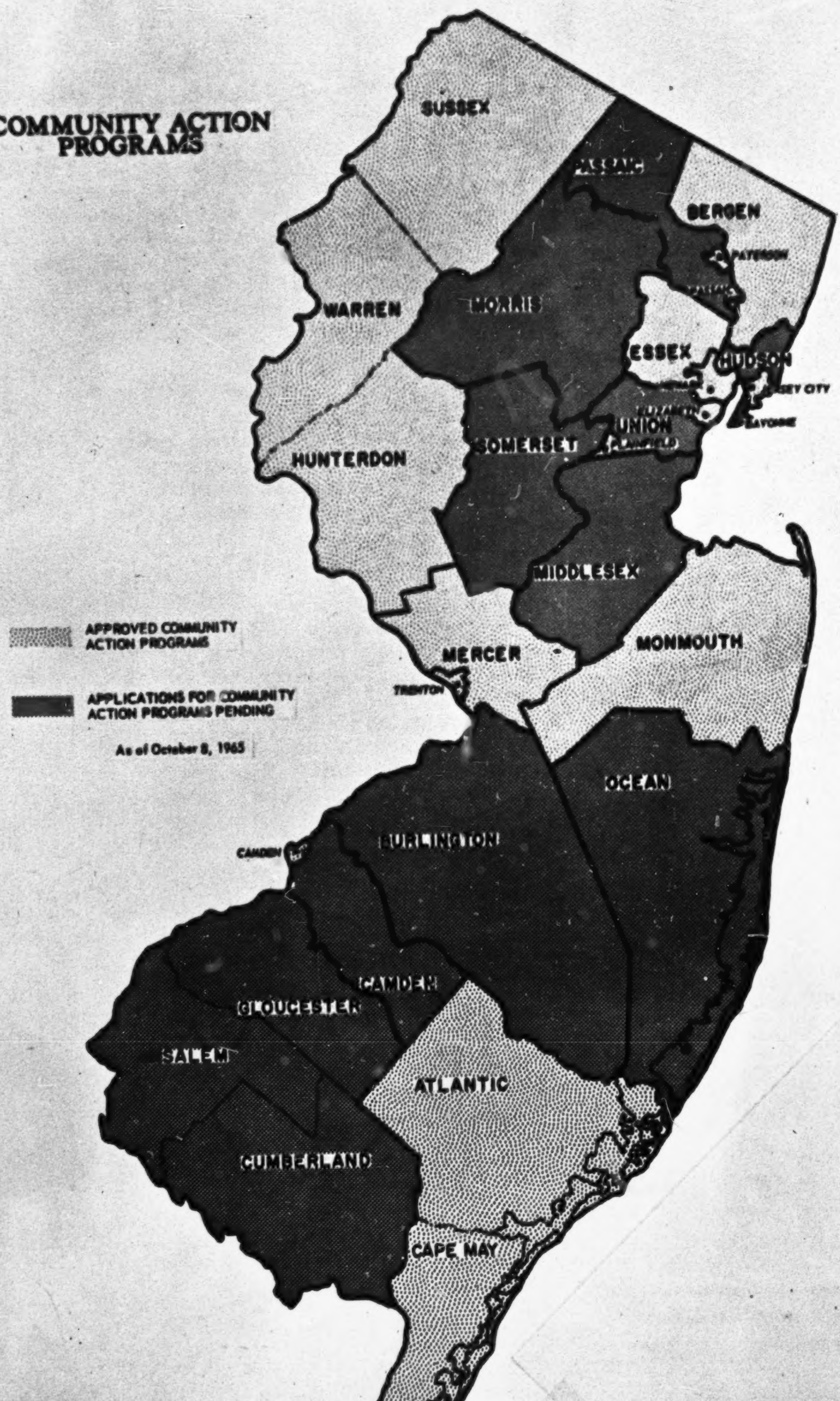
The initial principal objective of the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity was to assure that every community in the State was organized to take advantage of the Economic Opportunity Act and related legislation, in a coordinated attack on poverty. This objective has been accomplished -- as the map on the next page shows, every area of the State is now covered by community action agencies.

> The State Office has established broad priorities and objectives for the State as a whole, within which each community would find available the resources to meet its own special needs.

While the State has set the pace and helped shape the objectives of the war against poverty in New Jersey, much of the credit for the early development of effective programs throughout the State must go to citizen leaders -- from the Mayors of our largest cities to pastors in our smallest villages. What follows is the story of a creative effort by citizens throughout the State, and by State and local government, to use federal funds in the way best suited to each community.

This is the story of a State in action.

COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS


SUSSEX
PASSAIC
BERGEN
PATERSON
WARREN
MORRIS
ESSEX
HUDSON
JERSEY CITY
ELIZABETH
BAYONNE
UNION
PLAINFIELD
SOMERSET
HUNTERDON
MIDDLESEX
MERCER
TRENTON
MONMOUTH
OCEAN
BURLINGTON
CAMDEN
CAMDEN
GLOUCESTER
SALEM
ATLANTIC
CUMBERLAND
CAPE MAY
APPROVED COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS
APPLICATIONS FOR COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS PENDING

As of October 8, 1965

I

Community Action - the Concept

Poverty in New Jersey has many faces. It is a mother with six children living in one small room with no heat or running water -- and therefore no toilet; it is a man who hasn't held a job in three years; it is an eighteen year old who doesn't know how to give change for a one dollar bill; it is a young mother sitting up at night with a broom handle to keep the rats from biting her children; it is a middle-aged couple who can neither read nor write; it is a child with rickets; it is a sense of hopelessness and alienation and despair.

The architects of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 recognized that the causes of poverty are as diverse as its symptoms, and that to eradicate poverty, these causes -- not the symptoms -- must be attacked with the focused power of all available resources. They recognized that the principal cause of poverty was indifference: the indifference of the poor bred by despair, and the indifference of the rest of society bred by affluence. This conviction gave birth to the concept of community action.

Community action cements all the forces in a community, including the poor themselves, for an all out war on the causes of poverty. No resource or ally can be overlooked: all must be coordinated, so that local government, local school authorities, the business community, labor unions, social welfare agencies, clergy, civil rights groups and other community leaders are encouraged to participate with the poor on governing bodies of community action agencies and to conduct action programs.

From this mutual effort can emerge a total community effort in which, for the first time, the poor are not just objects, but are fully engaged in efforts to help themselves. At the same time, the affluent, who have learned society's secrets to success, can gain a new understanding of the obstacles which cause failure -- and poverty.

A field representative tells of a local meeting on housing problems that he attended last winter:

> Everyone there was talking about code enforcement, rehabilitation projects, and so forth, things we all felt sure the people would welcome. Finally, one man, who was from the area we were discussing and who had been silent up to this point, broke in.
>
> "Man, he said, that's all very nice, see. But, like it's cold out there and the thing to do right now is stop all these evictions."

Community action can be the conduit through which sometimes violent expressions of social discontent can be channeled into creative action to eradicate the causes of this discontent. Social responsibility requires involvement in community processes.

It is hard to regard most ghettos as "communities" at all. People just live there. Ghetto people are rarely policemen, on school boards, in civic associations, involved in even ward-level politics. They are often new to the ghettos, from remote areas, unaccustomed to community organization, and unable to understand the potentialities of cooperative action.

A County-Wide Meeting Begins Its First Community Action Program.

The community action process gives many an opportunity to test their own ability to shape their community and to witness real changes in their own lives and those of their relatives and acquaintances. Community action can for the first time make participation in the democratic process a reality for countless Americans.

It is important that an eighteen year old school dropout and delinquent now has a job because of the Rural Youth Development Program. It may be more significant that his parents cast their first vote of any kind in a community action council election.

Community action calls for dynamic focusing of the community's resources on each family in need. It recognizes that a youth who needs eyeglasses as well as education to be employable, may still not be able to succeed if his family does not live in decent housing and know how to feed him properly. Unless the resources of each agency -- health, education, housing and homemaker -- are brought to bear on the multiple problems, poverty will persist and these resources be wasted.

Where resources are inadequate, community action programs can strengthen existing programs or start new ones.

Finally, community action means that each community must fashion its own weapons to attack its own particular problems. The attack on poverty in Salem County will be different from Camden City's, even though fewer than twenty miles separate them. While the federal and state governments can provide resources and advice, direction must come from within.

II

New Jersey's Communities in Action

One year after Governor Hughes established the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity, every area of the State is covered by community action programs.

Where communities had already begun their efforts, the State Office has helped with organizational problems; elsewhere, it has taken the initiative to stimulate local leadership to action. It has interpreted the requirements and possibilities of the Economic Opportunity Act -- particularly the requirement that programs be,

> "developed, conducted, and administered with the maximum feasible participation of residents of the areas and members of the groups served".

It has helped plan programs, write them and negotiate approval. It has kept communities advised of current developments and brought in experts for seminars with local officials. Wherever communities have needed special help, the Office has arranged to provide it. It has facilitated actions by other arms of State government in support of local programs. In this and a variety of other ways, the State Office has encouraged strong community action programs throughout the State.

In order to assure total coverage of the State by community action programs by October 1, 1965, and to assure that the poor in the rural areas and smaller communities of the State, with their smaller population and different problems of poverty, were not overlooked, this effort by the State Office was divided between an urban and a rural staff. An arbitrary line was drawn for administrative purposes, so that responsibility for organization of community action programs covering Sussex, Warren, Hunterdon, Ocean, Burlington, Gloucester, Salem, Cumberland and Cape May counties was assigned to the rural staff -- which is also responsible for the Office's role in the State's Rural Youth Development and Migrant Opportunity Programs; and the remainder of the state to the urban staff. Some of the contrasts in the urban-rural distinction thus created illustrate the different nature of the challenges involved.

In the urban areas, which cover only 44 per cent of the State's land area, reside 81 per cent of our poor and 87 per cent of our adult illiterates. Thirty-eight per cent of our poor families and 36 per cent of these illiterates lived in the seven principal cities of the State (Newark, Jersey City, Elizabeth, Paterson, Trenton, Camden, Atlantic City).

Thus, poverty in urban areas is, not surprisingly, far more concentrated than in rural areas, where 19 per cent of our poor and 13 per cent of our adult illiterates are scattered over 56 per cent of the State's territory. At the same time, family income -- at least one indication of the level of community leadership -- is far higher in urban than in rural areas. For example, median family income in Bergen County is $7,978 and $6,651 in Essex, but $4,910 in Cape May and $5,511 in Warren.

A. Community Action in Urban Areas.

Trenton, Atlantic City and Newark provide three examples of successful community action programs in urban areas of the State.

1. Mobilizing Trenton's Resources.

We now know that when a seven year old slum child cannot read, it is quite likely that a variety of other problems afflict him and his home. Yet before United Progress, Incorporated (UPI), Trenton's economic opportunity organization, was created, there was no way of bringing all the existing services to bear on his problems and those of his family.

UPI has submitted a proposal to the Office of Economic Opportunity that for the first time will make it possible for someone to walk through one door and have the coordinated services of as many as forty public and private agencies available to him on the spot. The program is called "Concerted Services" and its target is the poor in the John Fitch Way Urban Renewal area.

What are some of the services and agencies involved in this concerted attack? A Day Care Center will be opened for 100 children by the Carolyn Stokes Day Nursery. A recreational program for youngsters will coordinate the activities of the City Recreation Department, the Boy's Club, the YMCA, the Jewish Community Center, the YWCA, the Police Athletic League, the Mercer Street Friends Center, the 4-H Club, and the Catholic Youth Organization.

The Home Maker Service Will Help This Young Mother of Seven.....

A health program to provide T.B. tests and other health services will be run by a coalition of hospitals and city and private health agencies.

The Salvation Army, St. Vincent de Paul's, the Mt. Carmel Guild, the Volunters of America, and the Junior League are banding together to provide clothing and furniture for needy families.

The city and county welfare departments have agreed to provide three case workers who will have caseloads of only twenty families each and will not be burdened with routine paper work.

A Homemakers Service to be run by the Mercer Street Friends Center calls for eight home visitors, each of whom will be assigned fifty families. They will serve as liaison between the project staff and these families. A staff of seven homemakers will stay with a family referred to them by the home visitors, and help them with such things as budgeting, purchasing, food preparation, hygiene and nutrition.

Trenton's Legal Aid Society will open an office in the Fitch Way Center two days a week.

A Housing Information Clearing House is being established by the Relocation Bureau of the Department of Planning and Development.

The Jewish Family Service, the Family Service Association, and the Catholic Welfare Bureau will provide counselling on inter-personal and marital problems, child-care from a psychological standpoint, alcoholism and other problems.

Where child therapy is called for, it will be supplied by the Mercer County Child Guidance Center and the Guidance Clinic of the Catholic Welfare Bureau. The facilities of the Bureau of Children's Services will also be available to youngsters in need.

The Alcoholic Treatment Clinic and the Trenton State Hospital will treat seriously emotionally disturbed adults.

The whole Concerted Services program will be governed by the John Fitch Way Corporation, which has a Board of six Directors. Three of these will be selected by the South Trenton Neighborhood Council, an organization of the impoverished residents of the Fitch Way area. One representative will be named by UPI and one each by the City Division of Planning and Development and the Social Service Council of Greater Trenton.

Over half of the jobs called for under the proposal are at the sub-professional level, and will be filled by the poor of Trenton, thus creating both employment and participation in decision-making.

In this way, forty-one public and private agencies have joined in a concerted effort to bring to the individual family all the services it needs, all at one time.

2. A New Awareness in Atlantic City.

> "(We) began with a promise and a hope -- no money and without too much encouragement ... We felt that we should give a voice to the people who otherwise were voiceless, and a certain

> measure of pride to people without pride." (Rabbi Aaron Krauss, President, Atlantic Human Resources, Inc.)

Through involvement of the total community, the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 seeks a new awareness of and approach to the problems of poverty. The community action program in Atlantic City is showing what can happen when this community commitment occurs.

Within a brief seven-month period, Atlantic Human Resources, Inc. (AHR), has developed a program totalling $1,034,004 in Federal grants and providing job opportunities for nearly 200 persons and an additional 868 openings for Neighborhood Youth Corpsmen. A Head Start project, two neighborhood service centers, one in Atlantic City, the other in Pleasantville, and a Small Business Development Center which processes loans and arranges management counselling and training for small businessmen, round out the complement of programs. Impressive as this record is, something else has been happening as a result of this new activity. More and more in Atlantic County, other institutions, organizations and agencies are actively defining their roles in the War on Poverty.

One such example is the Atlantic City Hospital. Atlantic City has a very high infant mortality rate. The percentage of at-home births is very high and contributes heavily to this condition. Many mothers cannot pay the $100 required for a hospital delivery and almost none received any pre-natal care. With the advent of AHR, there came a greater community awareness of this situation. Now the Atlantic City Hospital, cooperating with the State Department of Health, offers a Maternal Child Health Service, giving free pre-natal care to expectant mothers and making hospital facilities and staff available to them for delivery at no cost.

The business community, too, has become involved. Local businessmen and the Chamber of Commerce now volunteer valuable hours of their time to act as management counsellors for small businessmen at the Small Business Development Center.

The Board of Freeholders has not only contributed money to AHR itself, but has increased the size of the allocations it makes to many social welfare agencies throughout Atlantic County.

Many people in Atlantic County had expressed skepticism over the need for pre-school education. After a successful HEAD START, six Boards of Education are fully convinced of its value, and are now planning year-round pre-school programs.

Another participating agency is the local office of the Division of Employment Security. Recognizing the desperate need for training programs for Atlantic City's poor, it is now developing its first training program for funding under the Manpower Act.

There have been other encouraging initiatives. Several members of the Atlantic City Bar Association have volunteered their services to work in a legal aid program for the poor. The County Medical Association has indicated a desire to participate in a Health Services program.

There is also an awakening among the poor. Apathy and hopelessness are being replaced by faith in the possibility of change. In the uptown and mid-town sections of Atlantic City, local councils of the poor have for the first time addressed themselves to the needs of their areas for more traffic lights, playgrounds and litter baskets. They have organized their own volunteer program to serve the needs of their own neighborhoods.

The economic opportunity program has had a marked impact on human relations in Atlantic City. Over a third of Atlantic City's residents are Negro. Before AHR was established, there had been virtually no communication between the Negro and white communities. Now, in AHR's committees, Negroes and whites, totalling some 900 persons, are sitting down and meeting with one another for the first time to discuss mutual problems and concerns. Lines of communication are opening up and a dialogue with the impoverished has begun.

3. Involving Newark's Poor.

The Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 requires maximum feasible participation of the poor in the planning and conduct of community action programs. The United Community Corporation (UCC), Newark's community action organization, has shown how this can be done.

In the words of Willard Heckel, President of UCC, "What the Corporation is articulating ... is the right of the poor to participate in anti-poverty programs, not only as recipients of a service, but as program developers, employees and policy makers."

UCC received its first program development grant of $184,122 in February of this year. Approximately one-third of those funds was allocated for the development of the first three of a projected nine "area boards". The membership of these boards is made up largely of "members of the areas and groups to be served" by economic opportunity programs. For example, the Vice Chairman of one of the boards is a welfare recipient.

The first three area boards are located in the central part of the city where the incidence of poverty is highest. They have elected their own trustees and officers and are working on programs to lift their own areas out of poverty.

UCC is currently developing three more area boards in Northeast Newark and in the sections of the City known as Ironbound and Dayton. Within a month, UCC plans to organize the poor in the City's remaining three concentrations of poverty.

As these boards are created, they select representatives to sit on UCC's Board of Trustees and on task forces to develop programs.

As a result, the poor participated directly in the development of the Newark Pre-School Council and are represented on its Board of Trustees -- the planning was done with, not for, the poor. The Council is the delegate agency for the development of year-round pre-school programs in churches and social agencies that have had no prior experience in the field of child care (other agencies with such experience, such as the Mt. Carmel Guild, will be delegated responsibility for conducting programs in their own facilities).

Area board representatives were part of the Personnel Committee established by the Board of Education to recruit and screen individuals who applied for positions as Teacher Aides and Teachers-in-Training in this summer's "Project HEAD START". More than 300 community residents were employed in this program.

Area board representatives participated in an Advisory Committee to the Police Athletic League in its administration of the Summer Neighborhood Block Recreational Program, and in a sub-committee which recruited and screened applicants for employment in the program.

Area board representatives urged the development of a Small Business Development Center and helped draft the proposal. They will also be members of its governing body.

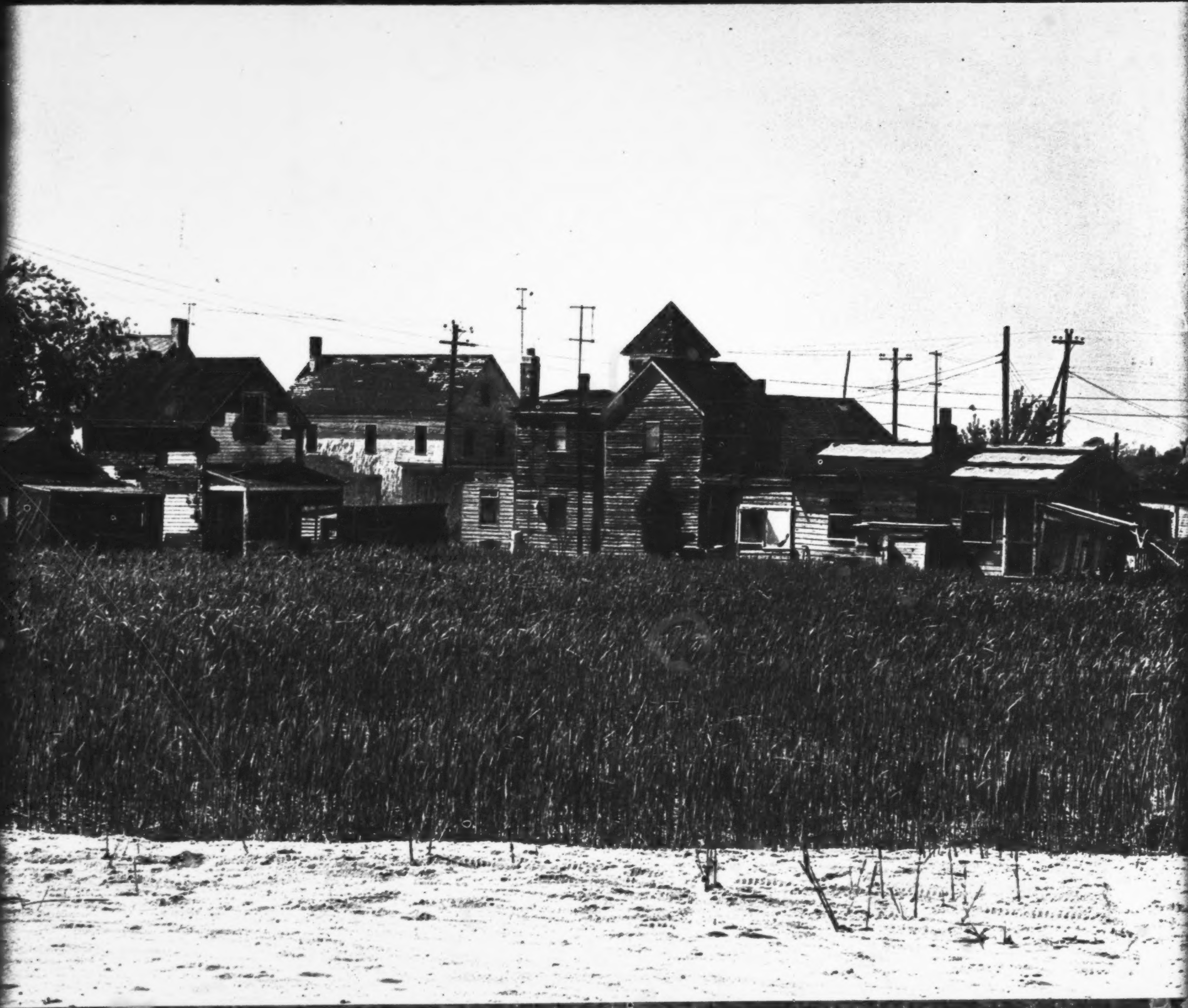
A Committee Meeting of One Area Board.....

Area board representatives constitute an Advisory Committee to the Senior Citizen's Commission, which has a sub-contract to develop a city-wide Senior Citizens Program.

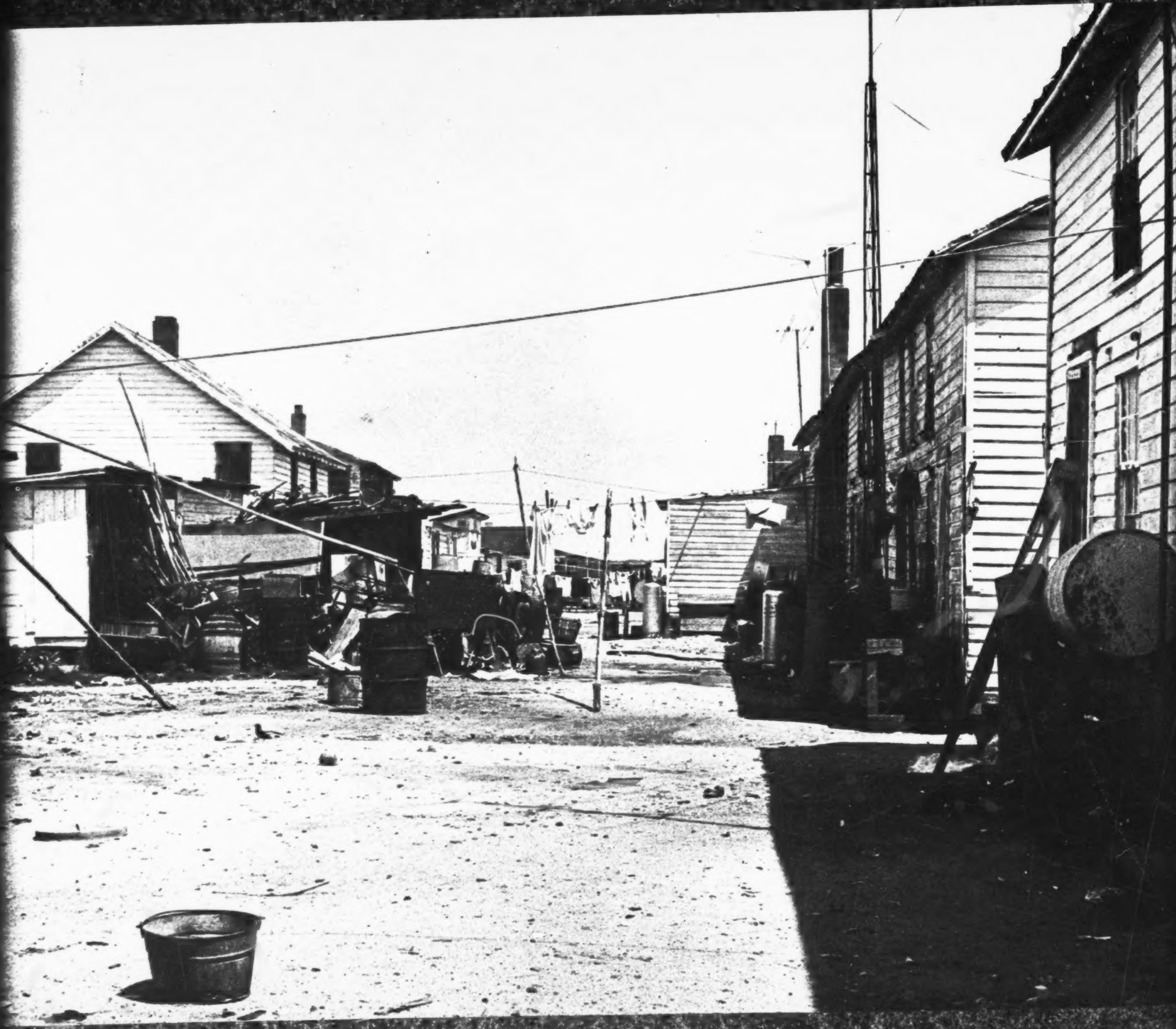
No program which affects the residents of an area may be sent to Washington without being first submitted to the area board for review.

Even while the area boards were being formed, their potential for developing programs was demonstrated by another grass roots organization, The Blazer Council. The Blazer Council's membership is like that of the area boards -- largely very low-income people with a long history of educational deprivation. This group developed with UCC a proposal to provide work training for 200 welfare recipients. The idea sprang from a series of Blazer Council meetings and was refined by dozens of people from the area who worked on several sub-committees.

This program will be administered by the Blazer Council and places are reserved for area board participation in its governing body. And the staff will be hired from the neighborhood. Thus, this whole program was developed and is conducted and administered by the poor in a massive effort to help themselves.



From the Road...Rural Poverty in New Jersey......



The Courtyards of Rural Poverty............

B. Community Action in Rural Areas.

The greatest challenge in the effort to organize community action programs in the rural areas was foreshadowed by the contrasts between the incidence of urban and rural poverty pointed out earlier: that is, how to establish programs large enough to "mobilize and utilize resources" (in the words of the Act) in an all-out attack on poverty, while at the same time encouraging the "maximum feasible participation" of the widely scattered poor, at the local level.

Together with its sub-contractor, the American Friends Service Committee, and VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America -- the domestic Peace Corps), the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity encouraged the development of local community councils within county-wide or tri-county community action programs. As of September first, twenty-six of these local councils -- which have their urban counterparts in Newark's area boards -- have been formed within the four community action programs covering the nine-county area (Sussex-Warren-Hunterdon; Gloucester-Salem-Cumberland; Ocean; and Burlington).

It is to this grassroots level that anti-poverty resources must be brought. Because of the great distance involved in rural areas, it is even more important that social services such as education, training, job placement, health and counselling be available to the smallest community, or special arrangements be made to transport those in need to the services.

Only if those with the resources go to the poor can we expect that the requirements of the Economic Opportunity Act for maximum feasible participation of the poor in developing, planning and administering programs will be met. And it is only in their own community that the poor can develop the skills and confidence which arise from cooperative community action.

The grassroots strengths of locally developed councils, combined with the force of community leaders and, in the rural areas, with the economies of regional programs, seems to offer the best hope of mounting effective economic opportunity programs.

With the approval of the application submitted by the Northwest Regional Community Action Program, Inc., covering Sussex, Warren and Hunterdon counties, and the filing of program applications by community action organizations covering Ocean and Burlington counties and the tri-county Gloucester-Salem-Cumberland area, New Jersey's rural poor can look forward to direct participation in programs designed with them for their special needs.

1. Ideas at Work--Action Research.

The State Office has sponsored several action-research projects in the rural areas which have already begun to shed light on the needs of New Jersey's rural poor.

*Through Rutgers, The State University's Bureau of Economic Research, a series of model "poverty index" studies has been launched in Burlington, Gloucester, Salem, Cumberland and Cape May counties. The studies will locate, in each census tract, concentrations of low income families, elderly people, school dropouts, adult illiterates, dilapidated housing and other signs of poverty to assist local planners in setting project priorities.

*A series of surveys has been developed with the local councils and rural community action programs, designed to provide more detailed information for local planning in concentrations of rural poverty. These surveys question the poor with respect to their housing, job training, adult basic education, and child care needs. The State Office, often with the assistance of the American Friends Service Committee, has helped local people prepare the questionnaires. The survey work is handled by community volunteers. What kind of information does this produce? In one community, only one in five of the jobless had ever applied for work through the State Employment Service. Result: plans for a mobile Employment Service facility.

*Two aspects of the State Office's effort in the rural areas have produced "research" bi-products.

.... First, the Rural Youth Development Program, described later, is a one-of-a-kind national experimental and demonstration manpower project. Experience gained from it has helped to guide Neighborhood Youth Corps and manpower training planning throughout the State, and has given other programs a standard by which to judge their performance.

....Second, the experience of the American Friends Service Committee as they help organize local action councils in rural communities has guided others in this work throughout rural America.

How, for example, do you get the word around in rural areas? What kinds of questions about the war on poverty do members of poor families want answers to? The American Friends Service Committee team is now recording discussions with small family groups in kitchens and is distributing the tapes and the equipment to other informal groups, church meetings, and other gatherings. The American Friends Service Committee worker answers such questions as "How can we get help from the poverty program?", "What good is this community survey?", and "What makes you think that they (traditional community leaders) will ever listen to us?".

The Only Source of Water for 50 New Jersey Families........

*The 2,000 people -- almost all volunteers -- working on community action committees throughout New Jersey's rural areas and smaller communities keep in touch with this research and with other developments across the state and the nation in the war against poverty through a Newsletter, COMMUNITIES IN ACTION, a 20-30 page monthly summary of community action information, which has generated a wide demand across the country.

2. A Demonstration of Community Action.

The State Office made a special effort over the last year in one impoverished rural community which was on the verge of serious social unrest, in order to demonstrate the results that could be achieved through community action. This community shares many characteristics with the urban centers of New Jersey. Isolation of its poor; low literacy levels; high rates of unemployment; few social services. But it is more isolated and most federal and state programs pass it over to concentrate on the larger urban concentrations of population.

There is no urban renewal for this community -- yet 200 families live together in a rural ghetto in shacks without running water, toilets or heating and get their drinking water from a leaky hand pump.

With the special effort made by the State Office, the future is brighter for the poor of this community.

a. The Rural Youth Development Program immediately enlisted eight young men, none of whom had gone beyond the ninth grade, all of whom had poor work histories, low reading abilities, dim prospects. In March, they began to bring more than $300 per week into the community as they worked and studied at a nearby State Park. Three have since returned to school, one qualified on the Army enlistment examination, one is already employed and earning a steady $1.60 an hour on a job with a future. One moved away with his family and another, still in the Project, will soon enter an on-the-job training position. Only one dropped out. Most of these youth are now on their way out of poverty.

b. Because most of the community is dependent upon seasonal agriculture work, it was eligible for immediate projects under the State's Migrant Opportunity Program. Following discussions with the newly created Council, two Day Care facilities for the children of working mothers were installed, and the local school authorities received funds to begin an educational enrichment and catch-up porgram for some of the school age children. These projects also brought about jobs and new earnings to residents.

c. The projects above were submitted to the Council for discussion. The Council began early to express its own ideas of priorities. The first was an adult basic education course, which was immediately established under the Migrant Opportunity Program, without having to go back to the federal government. Some years ago, an adult basic education course had been "offered", but no one attended. Today, the course, which was asked for by those who needed it, is well attended.

d. The Council asked for a community worker, and a VISTA volunteer was assigned to help organize locally developed activities.

e. From this point on, most activities will take three forms: improved use of existing services (i.e., Employment Service, counselling and placement); self-help projects (i.e., tutoring for those who need help in school); applications for federal assistance through the new regional community action program. No one who has seen this community will be surprised that "better housing" was the Council's first priority. Through the cooperation of the Farmer's Home

Administration, a self-help Housing Corporation has been formed through which 30 families in the area will work together to build modern houses for each other.

f. The Farmer's Home Administration also responded to the need for greater earnings by organizing and financing a producer cooperative which will help more than a hundred families in the area.

g. The Council is working with County Health authorities and others to create a child care and health station. In the future is a dream of a local multi-service center through which the public services which yesterday were all but unknown can be brought to and focussed on the complex family problems of poverty.

This demonstration is improving other economic opportunity work throughout the State. Its strength is in the creation of new and meaningful roles for the individual, the family and the community. The problems of this community are far from over. But there is something new in the air there, and that feeling of self-reliance offers the best chance of economic,opportunity for all its citizens.

Rural Youth Development Program Enrollees at Work in a State Forest........

III

STATE GOVERNMENT IN ACTION

In addition to moving to organize strong community action programs throughout the State, the State Office has coordinated a many pronged attack by State Government.

A. Rural Youth Development Program

The Rural Youth Development Program began in April, 1965, and is the nation's first attempt to prepare deprived rural youth for employment through the combined resources of the Economic Opportunity Act and the Manpower Act.

At Island Beach State Park, one of the work and study sites of the Rural Youth Development Project, we turned on a tape recorder during a group discussion led by a vocational counselor. The topic was, "What has the Project (RYDP) done for you thus far?"

> "When I was seventeen," one young man said, "I got in trouble with the law. After that, I tried to get a job for five or six months and everybody turned me down. This was the first outfit to give me a fair shake...The work's o.k. Our supervisor's a good guy... I'm trying to learn something..."

About half of all the project enrollees "got in trouble with the law", a social and employment problem among rural and small town youth which is often overlooked or minimized. The project is giving them a steady work experience most find impossible to get elsewhere.

It is also offering them vocational counseling which they never found in school; health examinations and medical care to correct impairments; an opportunity to catch up on their studies (some can't read, others lack only a little work to secure a high school certificate); and a chance to learn a trade through on-the-job training.

We believe that the youth in this project have on the average greater employment handicaps than those in any known employment program anywhere in the Nation. These boys, usually under 18, are young for employment and have the additional handicap of being teenagers at a time when there are more teenagers seeking work than at any time in history. Fifty per cent more youth became 18 this year than last, and the number of young jobseekers will continue to grow.

Perhaps their greatest problem, however, is simply where they live. These are the youth of the rural poor, far from vocational schools, employment offices, and transportation which would take them to year-round and better paying jobs. This is hard core poverty with a geographic dimension which makes the creation of an area job-preparation program many times more difficult than in a city.

The RYDP accepted the challenge of these problems, of recruiting over vast areas, of evaluating the potential skills of hundreds and providing them with practice in working, while earning, successfully. By the end of the first six months of operation, RYDP had screened 550 youth -- roughly 10 per cent of the estimated number of jobless rural youth -- and put more than 400 of them into work and training.

RYDP has also been an excellent example of interdepartmental cooperation. For five days a week and for up to 26 weeks, these young men work an average of six hours a day at tough and varied conservation tasks, under the supervision of skilled employees of the State Department of Conservation and Economic Development. They earn

Better
Communication
Newspaper
current events
Job application
Education
Better Job - make living
more money
A

Vocational Counseling Session in the Rural Youth Development Program.......

$1.25 to $1.35 per hour at their jobs in State Parks, forests, and recreation areas. For two more hours each day they receive remedial education and counseling from professionals and non-professional assistants and from VISTA volunteers. They are recruited with the assistance of the State Employment Service and their education is reviewed by the State Department of Education.

The RYDP also attempts to help the impoverished families of the trainees and serves as a model for employment programs developed by CAP's throughout rural areas.

What kind of young men have worked and studied in the RYDP? Almost as many different kinds as you can describe, but with one thing in common. They all come unprepared for employment in today's labor market.

Some of them are potentially very able, once they have a chance to prove themselves. One trainee was employed by the Department of Conservation and Economic Development after a few weeks to serve as an assistant to an archeologist at the Batsto restoration.

Thirty-one dropouts among the enrollees decided to try formal education again and returned to school.

One trainee came to the project able to speak only three words. Without parents, with only two years of formal schooling, he had spent a childhood of neglect, and was entering manhood without the means to communicate, much less work. Sympathetic handling by the crew supervisor and his fellow trainees has encouraged him to speak more -- his vocabulary now includes 30 words -- and his work at the conservation site has been extremely thorough. While placement will take longer for this young man, the staff expects his progress to continue. He can look forward to leading a life of independence.

A Migrant Worker Picks New Jersey Tomatoes........

B. Migrant Opportunity Program

New Jersey has long been a leader among the states which have attempted to meet the needs and unique problems of the migrant agricultural community. Since the nineteen forties, various State Departments have been regulating conditions of migrant housing, sanitation and health, and providing a summer enrichment program of education for migrant children.

But if steps had been taken to alleviate the more obvious of the migrant's harsh conditions, little had been done to encourage him to view himself as a member of the non-migrant community. In the words of Governor Hughes, "for too long we have accepted the migrant as a laborer and rejected him as an individual. It is no exaggeration to say that of the forgotten men, the migrant is the 'forgottenest'." The increasing mechanization of agriculture has provoked a continuing crisis in the life of New Jersey's rural areas. But it has also frequently robbed the migrant of a job, and thus of the only contact he has had with the established structure of American society.

It is against this background that the Migrant Opportunity Program was devised -- a small step, but a necessary first step toward the development of a year-round and more nearly comprehensive program for all seasonal agricultural workers, residents as well as migrants. The basic assumption in this, as in all the economic opportunity programs, has been that the poor should not only participate in the programs which affect their lives, but that such programs should extend their options in life, providing them with the same opportunities for choice and decision that other more fortunate Americans have had.

The first year of a coordinated Migrant Opportunity Program provided a chance to expand existing programs, to improve inter-agency planning and operations, and to reassess the problems of the migrant worker. A new force was introduced into agency planning -- we asked the migrant worker what he thought about government programs, about his aspirations for himself and his family, about his problems.

The job of the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity was to coordinate the efforts of the several State Departments, to evaluate the results, to lead in planning and to bring new resources into the program. We are particularly pleased that the State Extension Service has been among those new resources, and we benefitted in our planning and coordinating from the help of the Migrant Ministry of the Council of Churches.

The Department of Institutions and Agencies created a new dawn-to-dusk day care program for 120 children (infants through three year olds) of working mothers. Six units operated on four large farms in South Jersey and in Port Norris. Children received medical examinations, nutritious meals and pre-school training.

The Bureau of Migrant Labor expanded its program of instruction to migrants and growers on improved sanitary facilities and practices, and acted to clean up unhealthy water sources.

The Department of Health's Migrant Life Education Program worked to improve management of homes and health practices in migrant camps.

Two other projects were expanded with Economic Opportunity funds: the State Department of Education's adult basic education "tent schools" and the supplementary school enrichment program for 3 to 12 year olds.

Migrant Mother Works in Day Care Center for Children of Other Migrant Families......

A review of the summer's work and its experiments has suggested some new directions leading to real opportunities in the lives of migrant families. The achievements were human and real:

*A child who, at the age of three, had never walked or talked, began to do both in a Day Care Center.

*A crew leader said, "For the first time, my people feel like somebody cares."

*Several dozen high school and college youth who worked in these projects developed a deeper appreciation of the needs and aspirations of this group, and contributed their own ideas to the process of planning a new and strengthened program.

*34 migrants ran their own demonstration projects while being employed as health and day care assistants in programs they had helped to design -- a small but significant beginning of full "participation of the poor."

C. Health Service for Disadvantaged Youth

The nation's first health program authorized under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 is now being conducted for more than 3,000 New Jersey young people, aged 16 to 21.

The statewide program is designed to help disadvantaged youth with health handicaps get and keep a job. It is aimed at discovering the dimensions of the problem of bringing young people who have been poor all their lives up to full health.

The State Department of Health is arranging to provide recipients with complete medical, dental and psychiatric examinations and whatever follow-up care they may need. The health needs of most of the young people have been neglected. The project will help define the health problems of the nation's youthful poor and will help clarify ways and cost of meeting them. It will also restore thousands of young men and women from New Jersey poverty areas to the labor force and thus provide these youths with a sense of usefulness that will help them live more fruitful lives.

The $665,601 Economic Opportunity grant received for this program also includes an evaluation of the project by an independent research team from Rutgers - the State University.

A Youth's Hearing and Eyesight are Tested in the Health Services Program......

D. Work Experience Programs for Welfare Recipients (Title V)

There are 1,594 unemployed welfare recipients in Newark and Trenton now learning to work in programs designed to make them employable. A similar program for 500 of Monmouth County's 6,500 welfare recipients is being developed by the County Welfare Department. The work training includes basic education and training for jobs such as automotive mechanics, hospital aides, housekeepers, building maintenance and food service. The lives of some 4,200 dependents will also be helped by these programs.

A demonstration project providing work-training and basic education has been started in Passaic and Camden Counties to attempt to determine the most effective method of teaching long-time welfare recipients how to read and write -- one of the greatest challenges faced by teachers today.

E. Adult Basic Education (Title II-B)

In 1960, 506,000 men and women in New Jersey over the age of 25 had not gone beyond sixth grade. 90,000 had no schooling whatsoever.

In recognition that this "functional illiteracy" is one of the most serious causes of poverty, Governor Hughes has asked the Commissioner of Education and the Director of the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity to develop a state-wide plan to attack this massive problem.

In the meantime, pursuant to Title II-B of the Economic Opportunity Act, the Bureau of Adult Education, New Jersey Department of Education, is taking the following steps:

1. Finanical support to local school districts, in cooperation with Community Action agencies, for the establishment of local Adult Basic Education classes will be available.

2. Four-day teacher training workshops during October will be conducted at Newark and Glassboro State Colleges in the newest techniques, methods and instructional materials in literacy education

The X, Y, Z's of an Adult Basic Education Program............

3. Departments of Adult Basic Education at Newark and Glassboro State Colleges are being established.

Further programs will be provided under the Manpower Act of 1965 which makes available to New Jersey in the current fiscal year approximately $9 million for subsistence allowance training in basic education and employability skills.

Adult education classes will, wherever feasible, be integrated with community action programs which will recruit those in need of education. At the same time, a full range of health and job training services will be made available to enrollees.

F. The Older Poor

Individuals and families headed by older persons are a major portion of the poor. More than half of all poor families are headed by persons aged 45 and over. The 1960 census showed that of New Jersey's older husband-wife families, 22% have annual incomes of less than $2,000 and 37% less than $3,000. Older non-married persons are still worse off: 80% have annual incomes of less than $2,000 and 59% less than $1,000. They are for the most part invisible, living alone in rooms of rundown hotels, old homes and apartments, rural shacks. They lack the education necessary for training for employment; their health is poor; their future bleak.

The problems of these older persons present a special challenge, and the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity moved to meet it on October first with the first conference nationally on Community Action Programs and the Older Poor. Believing that community action provides a new weapon with which to meet this challenge, the conference discussed ways of locating the aged poor and defining their problems in specific communities, as well as ways of developing special community action programs. Among the models discussed were a multi-service center for the older poor, homemaker services, senior citizens in community action, and employment opportunities for the older poor. The National Council on the Aging has agreed to provide assistance to New Jersey community action programs in establishing these and other projects. A summary report of the conference and its proposals will be published by the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity this fall.

Economic Opportunity Programs Can Provide Hope to New Jersey's Elderly Poor.......

IV

Other State-Wide Action

A. Governor's Committee on Poverty and the Law

> "To us, laws and regulations are protections and guides, established for our benefit and for us to use."
>
> "But to the poor, they are a hostile image, established as a harrassment, at all costs to be avoided."
>
> "For ... (the poor man) ... it is simply 'the law' and what it does to him is definable by a single verb: to take."
>
> Attorney General Katzenbach

In July, Governor Richard J. Hughes established a Committee on Poverty and the Law to bring to bear the full force of the law and of New Jersey's legal profession in the War on Poverty. In establishing the Committee he said,

> "We are not thinking only of criminal law and the poor, of adequate defense counsel, of the problem of bail, -- we are speaking, too, of the question of the intricacies of the law and its understanding by poor people. There are many people who both fear and do not understand the law, who could be taught how to take advantage of legal services if they understood how to avail themselves of such services."

In its very brief existence, the Committee has stimulated and reviewed legal service proposals from six community action organizations, and is surveying the law in New Jersey as it involves the poor. Five working subcommittees have been established to: (a) develop prototype programs for the representation of the poor in civil cases; (b) consider the problem of providing counsel for the indigent accused; (c) review the relation of federal, state and local government agencies to the poor with a view to improving the administrative procedures which determine the rights of the poor under public programs; (d) review existing statutes and common law precedents in New Jersey to determine what aspects of the substantive law bear most onerously on the poor and to recommend appropriate changes; and (e) approach the Courts and Legislature with any proposals formulated by the Committee.

Other activities of the Committee to date include a study and recommendations soon to be released on adequacy of criminal defense in New Jersey and suggested major revisions in the traditional bail methods practiced in the State.

In addition, the State Bar Association, the Institute for Continuing Legal Education and Rutgers University Law School, are about to undertake a series of in-service training programs for practicing lawyers on aspects of the law which most affect the poor.

B. The New Jersey Community Action Institute

The New Jersey Community Action Institute, a statewide training program, is now being established by the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity and the community action programs of the State.

The Institute is designed to provide training for staff members of local anti-poverty programs throughout the State. Major emphasis will be placed on training the poor themselves to occupy positions of responsibility in economic opportunity programs.

Programs will be offered to meet the specific needs of local community action organizations in such fields as job training, basic education and health practices.

The Institute will be administered by a non-profit corporation with a Board of Directors made up largely of local anti-poverty directors. Dr. Mason W. Gross, President of Rutgers, the State University, will appoint one director. John C. Bullitt, Director of the State Office, will serve on the Board as the appointee of Governor Hughes.

Local training programs will be encouraged and experienced community directors will be invited to participate in developing and teaching training institute programs.

Specific objectives of the New Jersey Community Action Training Institute programs include:

. . . open new opportunities for low income persons to enter professional and sub-professional positions -- through intern programs -- in local anti-poverty agencies. A pilot project along these lines is now underway at Rutgers, where 20 persons with leadership abilities -- selected largely from New Jersey's economically deprived population -- are earning while receiving one year of on-the-job training for eventual positions in local community action programs across the state.

. . . stimulate development of citizen leaders among the poor, through training at neighborhood education centers.

. . . develop staff training programs for persons involved in local community action programs.

. . . develop training programs for citizens, church groups, labor unions and others involved in housing and planning programs on a local level.

C. Project HEAD START

More than 11,000 poor four and five year old children, who "learned to learn" in Project HEAD START classes last summer, entered New Jersey schools in September better equipped to compete with their more fortunate classmates. These culturally deprived children voluntarily participated in the best early childhood development program educational and medical experts could devise -- a program designed to prevent poor children from becoming poor adults.

Some HEAD START students learned to use a pen for the first time. Others saw their first book and were introduced to things unknown in culturally deprived homes. For example. . .

. . . In Trenton, several HEAD START students tasted salt for the first time.

. . . In Atlantic City, HEAD START students who lived five hundred yards from the boardwalk, got their first look at the ocean.

. . . In Jersey City, HEAD START youngsters took their first ferry ride across the Hudson River.

There were 380 HEAD START centers established in all 21 counties of the State last summer. There preschoolers were involved in programs designed to meet the needs of the whole child, programs that provided them with health, nutrition, social services and educational activities.

The children were given complete dental and medical examinations for vision, hearing and speech defects. They were tested for signs of TB, anemia and kidney diseases.

Each HEAD START student was screened for special intellectual, social and emotional weaknesses and strength; notes were made of their problems in family life and relationships. On the basis of this information, work, play and study plans were custom-designed to meet the child's needs.

Students were also given immunization against polio, diptheria, tetanus, measles and small pox. Many were referred to clinics and hospitals for such things as eye glasses, hearing aids and orthopedic braces where necessary.

In Project HEAD START, Many Children See Books for the First Time....

HEAD START also involved the mothers of the children as extensively as possible -- both as observers of their children's progress and as paid workers in the program.

> Dr. Mildren Groder, HEAD START Supervisor in Newark, said the Program stimulated a "wonderful response" from parents. She estimated about 80% had shown interest in HEAD START by calling or visiting the schools.

Each HEAD START class had 15 to 20 pre-schoolers from neighborhoods with a high incidence of poverty -- poverty measured by high unemployment rates, the proportion of a community's families on welfare, and low income.

In each class, three adults provided a classroom leader for each five or six children. The leaders were certified early childhood teachers, college students, volunteers and mothers of students. Training programs were held in New Jersey colleges early this summer to prepare the leaders for HEAD START.

Project HEAD START marked New Jersey's initial effort to help our disadvantaged pre-school children. The experience gained this summer is already being put to good use by over a dozen cities and towns, where HEAD START programs will be conducted.

The result of Newark's HEAD START effort, where more than 2,700 pre-schoolers participated in the program, were summed up by Dr. Paul H. Van Ness, Assistant Superintendent of the City's Schools.

> "HEAD START is the finest thing that I've laid my hands on in 30 years of education administration. The children advanced much farther than I would have anticipated in even four months of normal kindergarten experience."

D. Neighborhood Youth Corps (Title I-B)

Over 8,000 actual and potential dropouts aged 16 through 21 have gained useful work experience in more than 55 Neighborhood Youth Corps programs that have been conducted by community action organizations, counties, municipalities, Housing Authorities, Boards of Education and other public agencies in 17 of the State's 21 counties. These youth are paid $1.25 to $1.35 an hour to work in public non-profit facilities at tasks which would not otherwise be performed.

> An NYC graduate who "walked around the streets of Newark doing and talking about nothing" less than a year ago, now has a steady job as a stationary engineer with the Borden Milk Company and earns $156 a week.

> Lafayette Monroe Gaines, Jr., 20, quit school when he was 17 and spent two years unsuccessfully trying to get a steady job. He enrolled in the Newark NYC program because he wanted to learn a trade: "I figured the NYC program would give me something to do. I wouldn't be standing around the street corner with a bunch of guys talking about nothing. If there was no NYC, I'd probably still be in the streets -- something that was no good."

In only five months, Mr. Gaines' earnings of $37.50 a week as an NYC enrollee more than quadrupled. Now he has a bank account and plans to go to the Newark College of Engineering.

NYC students at Trenton High School put down on paper what they thought of the work-training program:

Marjorie Goldsmith: "I am grateful for the opportunity to work, to earn wages, credits and experience. But I regret that I was hired merely because I needed work desperately. I was not hired on my merits but on the condition of my pocketbook. I am now attempting to prove myself."

Renee Dickson: "This program is of great help to me because my mother is disabled to work, and I have no father. I am sure these jobs will work out for us because we need them.

Beverly Martin: "I wish someone would have invented this idea or program earlier and maybe we wouldn't have so many dropouts."

Louise Bacon: "The program gives me a chance to prepare for the jobs of the future. . . . to learn while I earn. I am proud to be a part of it.

Neighborhood Youth Corpsmen Assisting in Conservation Work At Colliers Mills....................

A day camp program for 300 underprivileged girls, aged 7 through 12, was conducted this summer by the Newark Housing Authority and the Girl Scout Council for Greater Essex County. The camps were set up at the City's five public housing projects. Thirty NYC girls were employed in the program; they were trained and supervised by professional Girl Scouts. It was conducted as a pilot project to show other housing authorities how anti-poverty funds could be used. It also brought Scout activities into new areas -- poverty areas -- of the City.

E. Work-Study Programs (Title 1-C, EOA)

Seventeen New Jersey colleges and universities have provided 2,858 poor students with part-time employment during the spring, summer and fall terms in 1965. Ninety percent of the wages paid to the resident students were provided for by the 38 work-study grants awarded to New Jersey. The basic wage is $1.25 an hour.

Students were given such on campus jobs as library, laboratory or research assistants; maintenance aides, or clerical positions. Off campus jobs were provided by libraries, social work agencies, YMCA's, boys clubs, community action organizations and other anti-poverty projects.

F. Small Loans to Rural Families (Title III)

138 rural New Jersey families have received long-term, low-interest loans totalling $243,000 to improve their businesses and to help increase their annual family incomes.

This New Jersey Couple Has Just Signed Up for the First Rural Economic Opportunity Loan......

The money is being used to buy equipment and to make improvements for such businesses as a boat repair shop, a taxi service, a bakery, a barbershop, an oil burner repair service, and many others. For example:

> A $1,000 loan went to a family of 9 who earned $4,830 last year running a lawn service. They hope to earn $6,430 this year.
>
> A $500 loan went to a family of 5 to help increase the $3,500 that they earned last year operating a local delivery service to $6,500 this year.
>
> A house painter with a family of 6 received $1,100 to help boost his $3,000 income of last year to $5,500 this year.
>
> A clamming operator with a family of 3 received $250 to bring his $800 income of last year to $3,100 this year.

The program is administered by the Farmer's Home Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, Chester Tyson, Director.

G. Small Business Development Centers

The Economic Opportunity Loan Program authorized by Title IV of the Act authorizes loans to impoverished persons to enable them to start or continue business ventures, where financial assistance for such purposes is not otherwise available on reasonable terms.

The program is administered jointly by the Small Business Administration through local community action organization-sponsored Small Business Development Centers. Each Center has a Policy Council chosen by the membership of the community action organization on the basis of interest in small business activity, concern with problems of poverty, place of residence or business in impoverished areas, the organizations or associations they represent, and their knowledge of the economic needs of the area.

The program will take calculated risks to help the very small businessman, where such help also carries out the purposes of the Economic Opportunity Act. In each case, there must be a reasonable assurance of repayment. Part of this assurance will come from a knowledge of the economics of the area provided by the SBDC Policy Council: what businesses have a chance for success? what fields are already overcrowded? Reasonable assurance of repayment also means the ability of the borrower to manage the business. Particular attention will be paid to the management skills of the applicant, and the SBDC may require management training or assign advisors with knowledge of the particular type of business to work with the applicant.

Small Business Development Centers are already in operation in Atlantic City and Monmouth County. In a few months such centers will be established in every major concentration of poverty in New Jersey.

V

The Job Corps

Barry Brown is an 18 year old boy from Paterson who was involved in a race riot there a year ago. In April, he joined the City's Neighborhood Youth Corps and two months later went in the Job Corps at Camp Kilmer where he is now learning a trade.

> "In school they didn't teach the same as they do here at the Job Corps," Barry said, "At Kilmer, I am learning way better than I did in school. I have more instruction, more help and more time. I didn't have this kind of help in school."

Owen Bergen, 19, from Bridgeton, is another New Jersey Corpsman that got to Kilmer after working four months with an NYC program -- the statewide New Jersey Rural Youth Development Program:

> "I have worked at the Beach with the NYC, and I liked it; and I like it here at Kilmer. I dropped out of high school when I got in with the wrong crowd. They teach me more here than they ever did at school. I'm learning how to operate office machines -- the IBM, the calculator, a 10 key adding machine and data processing. When I finish, I'm going to find a job in New York or Philadelphia."

One of the nation's first urban Job Corps Centers was opened at Camp Kilmer in February 1965.

One hundred enrollees were at the Camp Kilmer Job Corps Center when it opened last February. On September 22, there were 1,250 trainees, and the enrollment is expected to climb to 2,500 by the middle of next year.

The center is operated by Federal Electric Corporation, a subsidiary of International Telegraph and Telephone,on contract with the Federal Office of Economic Opportunity.

Corpsmen are getting vocational training in such fields as office work and equipment, maintenance, public contact and selling, culinary occupations, metal work, auto repair and health services. They are also receiving basic education in reading, practical mathematics, citizenship, history, human relations, and business. Perhaps most important is the change in social attitudes which have resulted from this environment and better self-understanding through daily group-counseling sessions.

AT LIBERTY PARK

Some 250 enrollees from New Jersey and New York will be trained as gardeners and landscape experts at Liberty State Park and Ellis Island. Liberty State Park is to be a two-mile-long waterfront recreation site. Jersey City has contributed 156 acres of land to the State for the project. Job Corpsmen are expected to start clearing the 470-acre park site this month. The park is to be open to the public within a year.

NEW JERSEY VOLUNTEERS

More than 2,500 New Jersey youths have volunteered for the Job Corps and were screened at the 28 participating New Jersey Employment Offices throughout the State. Of the 1,358 applicants given medical examinations, 1,181 passed.

As of July 31, applications for 1,140 New Jersey recruits were sent to Washington; 370 enrollees were accepted and assigned to Job Corps Centers throughout the United States.

VI

Anti-Poverty Study Commission

On April 26, 1965, by Joint Resolution, the State Legislature created a Commission to study the anti-poverty program in New Jersey. The Commission held hearings on May 27 in Trenton, June 21 in Paterson and July 16 in Atlantic City. On September 22, the Chairman of the Commission announced it would suspend action until after the November elections.

Annex 1

APPROVED ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS
October 6, 1965

COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS:		
13 Program Development Grants	$ 970,616	
21 Conduct and Administration Grants*	5,540,113	$ 6,510,729
PROJECT HEAD START:		
65 Programs for 11,180 pre-school children		1,899,813
NEIGHBORHOOD YOUTH CORPS: 70 Grants for 9,977 youths		
20 Out-of-School Grants for 2,895 youths	2,958,838	
34 In-School Grants for 4,353 youths	3,096,981	
16 In and Out-of-School Grants for 2,729 youths	1,913,641	6,969,460
COMMUNITY WORK TRAINING PROGRAMS:		
4 Projects for 2,694 welfare recipients and 6,000 dependents		4,771,800
RURAL STATE OF NEW JERSEY PROGRAMS:		
2 Rural Community Action Grants	105,376	
2 Rural Youth Development Program Grants* for 600 rural youths	1,003,760	
2 Migrant Opportunity Program Grants	410,596	
OTHER STATE PROGRAMS:		
Technical Assistance -- NJOEO	307,000	
Adult Education	561,561	
Work Training for Welfare Recipients	31,900	
Health Services for Disadvantaged Youth	665,603	3,085,796
WORK-STUDY PROGRAMS:		
37 Grants to 17 colleges and universities for 2,789 poor students		860,397
AGRICULTURAL LOANS: 138 rural family loans		243,000
359 APPROVED NEW JERSEY GRANTS		$24,340,995
U. S. JOB CORPS CENTERS:		
Camp Kilmer	$11,520,000	
Liberty Park	763,000	$12,283,000
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FUNDS FOR NEW JERSEY		$36,623,995

*Includes Manpower Act funds.

ANNEX 2

Cabinet Coordinating Committee

So that the entire resources of State Government would be effectively coordinated in support of economic opportunity programs, Governor Hughes established a Cabinet Coordinating Committee and named the Director of the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity as Chairman.

Members of the Committee are:

The Honorable Phillip Alampi
Secretary, Department of Agriculture

The Honorable Roscoe P. Kandle
Commissioner, Department of Health

The Honorable Raymond R. Male
Commissioner, Department of Labor and Industry

The Honorable Lloyd M. McCorkle
Commissioner, Department of Institutions & Agencies

The Honorable Frederick M. Raubinger
Commissioner, Department of Education

The Honorable Robert A. Roe
Commissioner, Department of Conservation and Economic Development

The cooperation of Committee members have made possible the large-scale state-wide attack on poverty which is described in this report.

ANNEX 3

Citizen's Council on Economic Opportunity

Governor Hughes created a Citizen's Council for Economic Opportunity by Executive Order #17 to assist and advise the Director of the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity. The Council has met from time to time at the request of the Director and has reviewed programs under development and otherwise guided the war against poverty.

Presently serving on the Council are:

Mrs. Bernice Alexander
Leroy Blackwell
Mrs. Elizabeth M. Boggs
Lloyd P. Burns
Mrs. Julian Cerf
Mrs. Mary Chiara
Richard J. Coffee
Frederick Harbison
Eugene Dobzynski
Woodruff J. English
Dr. Elmer W. Engstrom
Robert F. Fust
Mrs. Ruth R. Gray
Frederick H. Groel
Mrs. Grace Malone
Dr. Frederick L. Hipp
Joel R. Jacobson
Msgr. Albert W. Jess
Leonard C. Johnson
Thomas J. Kelley
Donald C. Luce
Franklin C. Nixon
Miss Mary Louise Nuelsen
William Payne
Rabbi Ely E. Pilchik
Arthur L. Manchee
Richard Marshall
Joseph J. McComb
Rev. Paul A. McDaniel
Charles T. Merrigan
James P. Nesbitt
Mrs. Irene Smith
Dean Malcolm D. Talbott
Bishop Prince A. Taylor, Jr.
Arnold Webster
Rev. Aloysius Welsh
Richard G. White, Jr.
George Zuckerman
Mrs. Marion H. Rieman
Maurice R. Strickland
James A. Skidmore
Richard Switlik

Annex 4

Temporary Rural Advisory Committee

To guide the war against poverty in rural areas, Governor Hughes created a special advisory group which is, in its composition, closely linked to the Citizen's Council on Economic Opportunity, to the new community action programs in rural areas, and to a variety of agencies and individuals whose work is important to the elimination of poverty in these areas. The Committee will formulate a series of recommendations to guide economic opportunity programs in rural areas.

The Honorable Phillip Alampi
Leroy Blackwell
Mrs. Elizabeth M. Boggs
Frank Caldwell
Anthony Casdia
Mrs. Mary Chiara
Richard J. Coffee
Rev. John M. Cooney
Most Rev. Celestine J. Damiano
Mrs. John Edmonds
Donald Engel
Mrs. Ethel L. Frei
Robert H. Fust
August Goetz
Carleton Heritage
Joseph C. Irwin
Willie James
Rev. William Johnson
The Honorable Roscoe P. Kandle
Rabbi N. H. Krauss
John Kutsopias
Mrs. Lora Liss
Joseph J. McComb
The Honorable Lloyd W. McCorkle
The Honorable Raymond Male
Dean Leland G. Merrill, Jr.
Mrs. Henry Moss
Melvin Newton
Mrs. Frank C. Nixon
Mrs. Ruth H. Page
Louis Pizzo
The Honorable Frederick Raubinger
Mrs. Macpherson Raymond
Dr. Thomas Robinson
The Honorable Robert A. Roe
Jack Seabrook
Rev. Robert Shaffer
David W. Shomaker
Mrs. Irene Smith
David Streaser
Arthur R. Sypek
George Tapper
Chester Tyson
Rev. Reinhardt Van Dyke
Mrs. George L. Walker
Richard G. White
Rabbi A. Yedwab

ANNEX 5

Advisory Council for Project HEAD START

An Advisory Council for Project HEAD START was established in April to counsel and advise the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity in launching HEAD START programs for over 11,000 pre-school children in 65 communities in all New Jersey's counties this summer.

The Advisory Council advised in the development of the three six-day training sessions offered HEAD START professionals at Rutgers, The State University and Newark State College during the weeks of June 14, 21 and 28. The Advisory Council recognized the critical shortage of qualified pre-school teachers and supported the opening of opportunities for training pre-school personnel. The Advisory Council gave invaluable help in addressing various aspects of HEAD START programs which presented problems in their implementation, such as medical and dental services, the nutritional programs, and adequate parental involvement.

Mrs. Richard J. Hughes is Honorary Chairman of the Council. The sixteen leading educators, church and civic leaders serving are:

Dr. Werner Boehm
Mrs. John C. Bullitt
Rev. Thomas J. Carey
Mrs. Mary Fleetham
Dr. Donald Herdman
Miss Anne S. Hoppock
Rabbi Aaron Krauss
Mrs. Leo Marsh
Dr. John O'Neill
Dr. Thomas E. Robinson
Dr. Irving M. Robinson
Dr. Edna Salt
Dr. Leon Singer
Mr. Cyril Tyson
Dr. Paul H. Van Ness
Dr. Deborah P. Wolfe

ANNEX 6

Governor's Committee on Poverty and the Law

The Honorable Arthur J. Sills
Chairman

Peter Murray
Vice-Chairman

Harold J. Ashby
Lawrence Bilder
Vincent Biunno
Raymond Brown
John C. Bullitt
A. J. Cohen
Charles Danzig
Dickinson R. Debevoise
Adrian M. Foley
David J. Goldberg
Joseph Harrison
Dean C. Willard Heckel

George M. Hillman
Emanuel Honig
Hyman Isaac
Ira Katchen
Leon Levy
Dean John P. Loftus
Kenneth E. Marshall
Felix-Ramon Neals
David F. Satz
John B. Stoddart
Herbert Sturz
Maceo H. Turner

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4. Temporary Rural Advisory Council
5. Advisory Council on Project HEAD START
6. Governor's Committee on Poverty and the Law

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. . . to secure these rights,

governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the overned; . . . .